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Central Intelligence Bulletin

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9 November 1968

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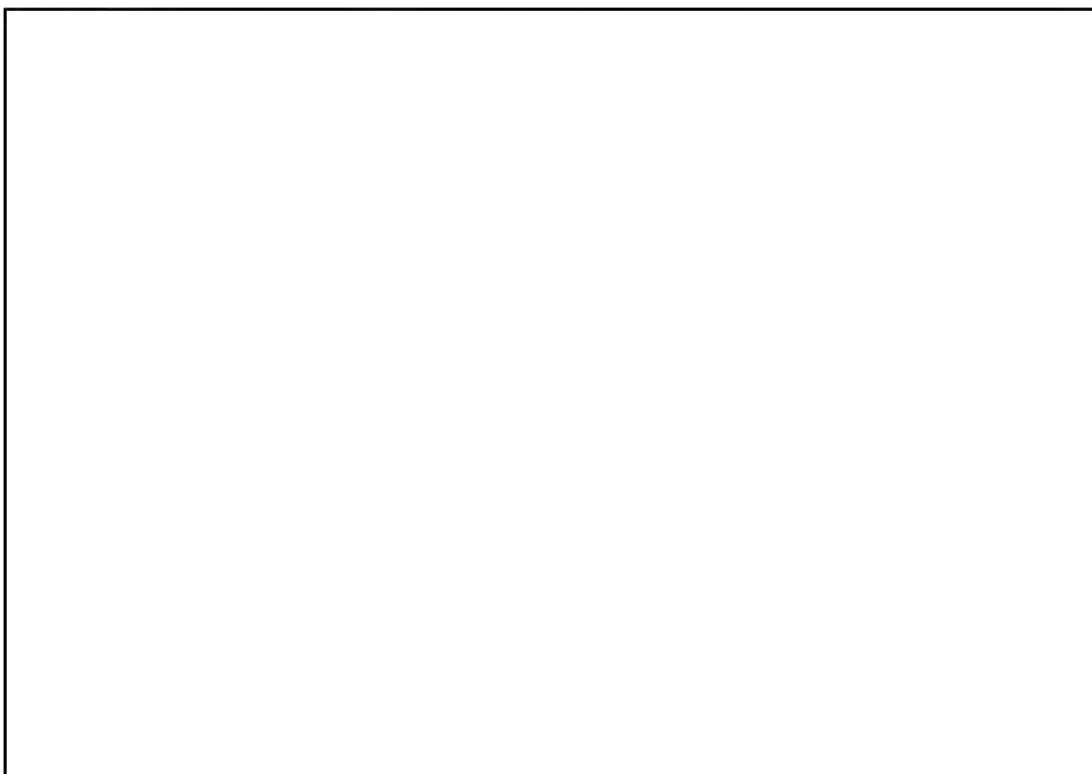
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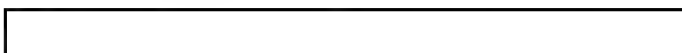
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Lebanon: The government may soon be forced into adopting a more permissive policy toward Palestinian terrorists.

Lebanese Muslim political leaders are under pressure from Lebanese Muslims as well as from other Arab states to change the government's policy of interdicting terrorists crossing Lebanese territory from Syria to Israel. The government leaders are also facing a deterioration of military discipline and morale resulting from the government's policy toward the terrorists. The army is under orders not to respond to Israeli retaliatory attacks, while at the same time it is ordered to interdict terrorists with whom a large segment of the army and population is sympathetic.

There is concern in Beirut that the confrontation in Jordan between the terrorists and the government will have unfavorable repercussions in Lebanon. If the terrorists either overthrow the King or gain greater freedom of action, they may be emboldened to try elsewhere. If, on the other hand, King Husayn succeeds in controlling the terrorists, they could well move to Lebanon to try to mount their operations from new terrain.

Were the terrorists indeed to step up their operations in Lebanon to the level of those in Jordan, it is doubtful that the government could contain them without causing dangerous internal dissension in Lebanon, where the political balance is already fragile. The Lebanese Government would also probably not be able to avoid Israeli reprisals.

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Israel-Egypt: Israeli forces along the canal reportedly are being redeployed to positions out of Egyptian artillery range. [redacted] only a token Israeli force will patrol along the canal. The redeployment will provide the Israelis with more room to maneuver with their armored and other mobile forces should Egyptian troops attempt to cross the canal. [redacted]

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Venezuela: A small number of Cuban and Cuban-trained guerrillas [redacted] have made two landings in eastern Venezuela since mid-September. They are now attempting to join the Castro-supported Movement of the Revolutionary Left operating in that area. Although relatively quiescent in recent months, the movement has clashed twice this month with government troops, who claim to have killed a few guerrillas and wounded or captured several others. [redacted]

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